

coyote. A scattered flock, flying from sage-bush to greese-wood, across the hills, was, in almost every instance, preceded by a "Government Dog," and the killing of a rabbit several times per day was the inducement to the feathered escort, which shared freely in the leavings of the wolf.

Early in the spring of 1910 a male English Sparrow was seen 12 miles from Vale, in the sage-brush, vainly attempting to induce a female Brewer Blackbird to begin housekeeping with him. So far was the wanderer from his fellows in Vale that I was surprised, never having seen one even half a mile from town before. No more strays were seen until in the fall, when on the upper Willow Creek, near the base of the Burnt River Mountains, I found a small flock of from four to ten on every ranch. This region is some 40 miles from the railroad, the nearest point being Huntington, where the sparrows are abundant. To reach the ranches mentioned a mountain range must be crossed and long miles of sage plains and lava mesas, a region as little to their liking as a wood-yard to a tramp. It is more likely that they found their way up the valley from Ontario, some 70 miles, but through country that is entirely unsuited to the requirements of this species as we have regarded them in the past. The ranchers told me that they had not seen any sparrows until a month or so before, a statement that was likely true, since only small flocks were seen, and there was no evidence of their having been long resident.

In the spring of 1909 a pair of Bullock Orioles, migrating through the sage plains of eastern Oregon, paused to rest on the derrick of an oil well, several miles from the nearest tree or shrub, save the ever present *Artemisia*. The drill was temporarily idle and hanging from one of the timbers of the derrick was a frayed rope, resembling the end of a cow's tail. This was taken as a homestead and the nest hung from the loose fibers. Meantime an Arkansas Kingbird selected the end of the huge walking beam as a summer home and built. Before the eggs were hatched it became time to renew operations on the drill and the nests were in danger of destruction. The rope was cut and the end with the oriole's nest fastened to the corner of the derrick out of harm's way, while the Kingbird's nest was removed to a shelf some ten feet distant. Neither species objected in the least, and the young birds were raised amid the clatter of machinery and smoke of forge. In the spring of 1910 the kingbird returned and took possession of the same nesting site, but the rope had been removed and the oriole selected the branches of a sage-bush at the foot of the derrick, where the young were raised in a nest only two feet from the ground.—A. W. ANTHONY, *Portland, Oregon*.

Notes on Some Birds Rare or New to Wisconsin.—In a neat little pamphlet of 51 pages, entitled "Birds of Oconto County," dated October 27, 1902, Mr. A. J. Schoenebeck of Kelley Brook, Wisc., gives a list of some 254 species, "identified, captured or seen" by him, most of which are in his collection. This list contains the first authentic record of the Water

Turkey (*Anhinga anhinga*) for Wisconsin, of which he says: "Rare visitant. One specimen brought to me in the spring of 1889; shot on the Green Bay shore, and proved to be a male."

A second authentic record of the Black Rail (*Creciscus jamaicensis*) is: "Summer resident; very rare. On June 9, 1899, I met with one of these little rails near the mouth of the Oconto River on the Green Bay shore, but could not discover its nest."

The Eskimo Curlew (*Numenius borealis*) is thus entered: "Migratory; rare. One specimen was brought to me April 27, 1899. This was shot near Oconto."

The Sharp-tailed Grouse is recorded as: "Visitant; rare. On Oct. 27, 1897, I shot an old male of this species near Peshtig's Brook." This is the first record for Wisconsin.

The Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) is given as "Resident; rare. The nest of this bird I have found twice on the northwest plains of this county." Not previously recorded from Wisconsin.—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

Long Island Notes. SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Totanus solitarius*).—On the 10th of May, at Flowerfield, L. I., I collected a splendid female of this species. Although this is not a rare record, I consider it a very interesting one because upon dissection I found that an egg in the ovaries was very well developed and three others had started to form. It looks as if this bird would have nested at or not far from place where taken.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*Dendroica virens*).—This bird is a common summer resident at Flowerfield, L. I., where it breeds in the numerous cedar woods. Although I searched carefully during the breeding season I failed to locate a nest. I was just about to give up the search for 1910 when I saw a male fly into the top of one of the cedars, with something in its bill. After he had flown away the female also came with food, and upon looking carefully I saw a nestling perched on a twig near the top of the tree. The birds repeatedly fed this one and did not seem the least disturbed by my presence; further search disclosed two more nestlings.

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus stellaris*). I collected, at Floral Park, L. I., on October 18, 1910, a fine male of this species. He was among some goldenrod stubble in an open lot.—HENRY THURSTON, *Floral Park, L. I., N. Y.*